

III. REMARKS

1. Applicant elects the claims of Group I, claims 1-11, 13 and 15-22, for further prosecution. Claims 12, 14 and 23-29 are cancelled without prejudice.

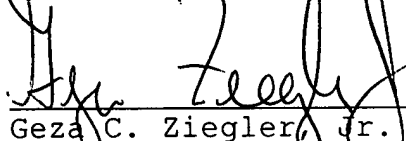
2. Claims 30-39 are new.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$370 is enclosed for a one-month extension of time and one additional independent claim.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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7 JAN 2005
Date

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 7 January 2005

Signature: Meaghan Baye
Person Making Deposit